



A COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF

# The City of Buffalo Common Council

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Darius G. Pridgen, President | Christopher P. Scanlon, President Pro Tempore | David A. Rivera, Majority Leader

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**2/8/2023**

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## **Bollman Puts Forth Resolution “WARMUP Act” To Strengthen Community Warming Shelter Preparedness**

*Resolution aims to have schools, community centers, senior centers, and other city-owned buildings prepared as warming shelters and for other emergencies*

**Buffalo, N.Y.** - Lovejoy District Council Member Bryan J. Bollman presented a resolution to the Buffalo Common Council at the February 7, 2023 Council Meeting that aims to strengthen community shelter preparedness in the event of any emergency or weather related emergency. The resolution was adopted with unanimous support from the Buffalo Common Council.

The resolution is a direct result from the Blizzard of 2022 when warming shelters, such as Hennepin Community Center in the Lovejoy District, were not fully operational and not enough were open throughout the City of Buffalo to accommodate the needs of the greater community due to mass power outages.

"It's important we find ways to keep residents warm during emergency situations. That's why I am putting forth a resolution looking to evaluate the feasibility of using schools as warming shelters and better preparing current shelters with backup generators," said Lovejoy District Council Member Bryan J. Bollman.

The resolution is specifically calling for:

- The Department of Public Works and the Emergency Coordinator to conduct a study on feasibility and viability of using schools, community centers, senior centers, and other city-owned buildings as warming shelters
- The Department of Public Works and the Emergency Coordinator to work with the National Guard to find ways to staff warming shelters and establish communication protocols during extreme weather conditions and regional disasters
- The allocation of funds for the designation of additional warming shelters in the City of Buffalo, including backup generators in each shelter
- Ensuring warming shelters are strategically placed in each district to increase accessibility for residents during extreme weather conditions

Copies of this resolution will be sent to the Department of Public Works, the Mayor's Office, New York National Guard, Board of Education, federal delegation, state delegation, and the County Executive's Office.



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[For more information, you can review the agenda item here.](#) For questions or more information on this and all Council related topics, please contact Mike Read by phone at (716) 245-8332 or email [mread@buffalony.gov](mailto:mread@buffalony.gov).

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